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Identical letters dated 26 July 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Further to my previous letters regarding the consequences of the blockade of Qatar and the illegal and discriminatory measures that have been imposed against it since 5 June 2017, and upon instructions from my Government, I am writing to you to follow up on the binding decision that the International Court of Justice, acting pursuant to its Statute, rendered on 23 July 2018 approving the request of Qatar for interim measures to be taken against the United Arab Emirates, which has taken discriminatory measures against Qatari nationals in violation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Rac al Discrimination. In its order, the Court indicated the United Arab Emirates must ensure that:

- Families that include a Qatari, separated by the measures adopted by the United Arab Emirates on 5 June 2017, are reunited;
- Qatari students affected by the measures adopted by the United Arab Emirates on 5 June 2017 are given the opportunity to complete their education in the United Arab Emirates or to obtain their educational records if they wish to continue their studies elsewhere;
- Qataris affected by the measures adopted by the United Arab Emirates on 5 June 2017 are allowed access to tribunals and other judicial organs of the United Arab Emirates.

The decision of the Court in favour of Qatar is a recognition by the highest international judicial body of the validity of the legal position of Qatar with regard to the crisis that has been concocted against it. The decision also upholds the rights of Qatari nationals who have been affected by the coercive, unilateral, illegal and discriminatory measures taken against and the unjust blockade of Qatar, both of which are aimed at achieving goals that violate international law and are based on clearly invalid allegations. Moreover, the decision of the Court reaffirms that Qatar has been correct to address the crisis and its impact on international peace and security, as well as its humanitarian consequences, through international law, international and bilateral instruments, and international conflict-resolution mechanisms.

The above-mentioned decision was the result of the first of a series of legal proceedings that have been instituted by Qatar at the International Court of Justice against the violations arising the from the illegal, unilateral, coercive and discriminatory measures that have been taken against its nationals.

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Qatar underscores that it is striving to de-escalate the situation, promote good-neighbourly relations and find a solution to the current crisis in the Gulf region through unconditional dialogue that is based on mutual respect for sovereignty. That notwithstanding, it reaffirms that it will unfailingly protect the interests and rights of Qatari nationals and residents, and will continue to defend those interests and rights by legal means and in accordance with established international practice.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alya Ahmed Saif **Al-Thani**
Permanent Representative